AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Applicants selectively amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1   1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

2   a data path input unit to receive a packet from a transmitting device <u>that does not</u>

3   <u>expect a completion acknowledgement</u> for a request transaction ~~that does not expect a~~

4   ~~completion~~; and

5   a data path output unit to transmit a message to the transmitting device if the

6   request transaction is unsuccessful.

1   2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, the packet including a packet header that includes

2   a requester identification field that identifies the transmitting device.

1   3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, the contents of the requester identification field

2   used to route the message back to the transmitting device.

1   4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 3, the message including an ~~unsuccessful~~

2   <u>unsupported</u> request error message.

1   5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, the message including an undefined packet error

2   message.

1   6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, the message including a malformed packet error

2   message.

1   7. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

2   a transmitting device to transmit a packet for a request transaction ~~that,~~ wherein

3   the transmitting device does not expect a completion acknowledgement; and

4   a receiving device to receive the packet and to return a message to the

5   transmitting device if the request transaction is unsuccessful.

1   8. (Original) The system of claim 7, the packet including a packet header that includes a

2   requester identification field that identifies the transmitting device.

1   9. (Original) The system of claim 8, the contents of the requester identification field used

2   to route the message back to the transmitting device.

1   10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9, the message including an ~~unsuccessful~~

2   unsupported request error message.

1   11. (Original) The system of claim 9, the message including an undefined packet error

2   message.

1   12. (Original) The system of claim 9, the message including a malformed packet error

2   message.

1   13. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

2   receiving a request packet from a transmitting device;

3   determining whether an error condition exists; and

4   if an error condition exists and the request packet <u>does not</u> indicate[[s]] that a

5   completion <u>acknowledgement</u> is ~~not~~ expected, delivering an error message to the

6   transmitting device.

1   14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising delivering a

2   completion packet with a non-successful completion status to the transmitting device if

3   an error condition exists and the request packet indicates that a completion

4   <u>acknowledgement</u> is expected.

1   15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the error message indicates an undefined

2   packet.

1   16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the error message indicates a malformed

2   packet.

1   17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the error message indicates an

2   unsupported request.

1   18. (New) A system, comprising:

2   a requesting device to transmit a packet for a memory transaction over one or

3   more point-to-point communication links, wherein the requesting device does not expect

4   a completion acknowledgement; and

5   a completing device to receive the packet and to return a message to the

6   requesting device if the memory transaction is unsuccessful.

1   19. (New) The system of claim 18, the packet including a packet header that includes a

2   requester identification field that identifies the requesting device.

1   20. (New) The system of claim 19, the contents of the requester identification field used

2   to route the message back to the requesting device.

1   21. (New) The system of claim 19, the message including an unsupported request error

2   message.

1   22. (New) The system of claim 19, the message including an undefined packet error

2   message.

1   23. (New) The system of claim 19, the message including a malformed packet error

2   message.

1   24. (New) The system of claim 18, the memory transaction including a memory write

2   transaction.

Application No. 10/041,040
Atty. Docket No. P13767   -6-   Examiner Abraham
                                                                    Art Unit 2133